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May 19, 2000

Ms. Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy
736 Jackson Place
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Thurman:

I know that HIV/AIDS has been one of your most serious concerns, and I am writing to request an appointment with you for several top academic leaders from South Africa whose institutions have been in the forefront of research into the subject. They will be in Washington from Monday, June 5 through Thursday, June 8. They are:

Professor R.A. Mogotlane, Vice Chancellor (President) of the Medical University of Southern Africa.

Professor Allen A. Herman, Dean of the National School of Public Health at Medunsa, Advisor to Chairman Dellums of the President's Advisory Council on AIDS, and Advisor to Bristol-Myers Secure the Future Fund.

Professor Elize Botha, Chancellor of the University of Stellenbosch.

Professor Estrelita Janse van Rensburg, Professor of Virology at the University of Stellenbosch.

As you are aware, the Medical University of Southern Africa is the largest health sciences center on the African continent, and its National School of Public Health has the

largest AIDS training program on the continent. It counts the Ministers of Health of Swaziland and Gauteng Province among its students, as well as top officials in the Department of Health and the AIDS Coordinators for Lesotho and Mpumalanga Province.

The University of Stellenbosch has made significant progress in isolating the Subtype C virus, the most prevalent on the African continent.

Together, the two institutions have formed a Consortium with the Mayo Clinic, Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, George Washington University in Washington, DC, and the International Association of Physicians Concerned with AIDS, to design a response as comprehensive as the challenge, in order to undertake realistic multi-disciplinary programs of prevention and intervention in the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Southern Africa. This program seeks to identify, understand and modify those mutable factors in the realms of public health and the clinical care of individuals infected by the human immunodeficiency virus. The Consortium believes that this collaboration will help find consilience in the fight against AIDS. The AIDS epidemic is influenced by and affects the social life of communities, is having devastating effects on the economic well-being of southern Africa, is forcing a reexamination of research ethics, is having an impact on public health, primary care, and hospital care and has challenged the legal context within which South Africans live. The Consortium has adapted the key principles of the comprehensive HIV strategy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (1998) in order to develop community-based prevention and treatment strategies.

This is, to our knowledge, the most comprehensive effort to deal with the challenge, and to involve top medical researchers in the U.S. and South Africa for the purpose. I believe that it would be most helpful to the group to have the opportunity of meeting with you, both to brief you on the progress being made, and to gain your own perspectives.

Could your staff contact me to see if some convenient time could be found?

Sincerely yours,



John H. Chettle
General Counsel

JHC/fwr/hw

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November 10, 1999

Mr. Todd Summers
Deputy Director
Office of National AIDS Policy
736 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Todd,

This is just a note to say how pleased I was to meet you on Thursday, after David Barr, Allen Herman and I had met with the Director. I thought you might find it helpful to have a copy of my letter of October 25, 1999 to her, letting her know of the major AIDS Consortium being formed by the National School of Public Health and the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa, and assisted here by the Mayo Clinic, HarvardAIDS, George Washington, and Baylor College of Medicine.

I hope we can keep in contact on this critically important subject.

Sincerely yours,

JH

John H. Chettle

JHC:hw

cc: Prof. Allen Herman
Dr. David Barr

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October 25, 1999

Ms. Sandra L. Thurman
Director, White House Office of
National AIDS Policy
736 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Ms. Thurman:

I am writing at the request of the Board of the Medunsa Trust, Inc. to thank you for your profound and important work in dealing with the AIDS crisis. The Board of the Medunsa Trust, Inc., dedicated to helping black medical education in South Africa and particularly the Medical University of Southern Africa, is composed of eminent Americans, many of them African-American, and is deeply concerned by the serious implications of this crisis. The Board has asked me in particular to express its appreciation for the President's announcement of his intention to mobilize the medical and intellectual resources of the United States in the fight against AIDS.

We have also had the privilege of working closely with Dean Allen A. Herman of the National School of Public Health at the Medical University of Southern Africa, whose exceptional work is, I understand, well known to you. He has asked me to keep you informed of the work being implemented there in cooperation with leading U.S. institutions.

The National School of Public Health is, of course, already the major focus of the training and education section of the grant of \$100 million made by Bristol-Myers Squibb as part of their Southern Africa AIDS initiative. Currently, the School is training fifty Secure-the-Future Scholars a year to help deal with the crisis, including this year such key officials as the Minister of

Ms. Sandra L. Thurman
October 25, 1999
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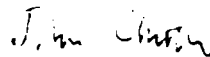
Health of the Kingdom of Swaziland, the Advisor on HIV/AIDS to the King of Swaziland, the AIDS Coordinator for Lesotho, and the AIDS Director for the South African province of Mpumalanga.

Perhaps even more important are the intensive discussions being pursued between the National School of Public Health and the University of Stellenbosch, which has also made significant steps in AIDS research, with a view to forming a multinational consortium to bring together some of the best research talents in the United States and Southern Africa. We have already had preliminary talks with the Mayo Clinic, HarvardAIDS, George Washington University and Baylor College of Medicine, and will work closely with Swaziland, Lesotho Botswana and Namibia in forming the consortium. Our aim is to obtain \$10-15 million from both public and private sources to establish a major AIDS research center on the African Continent. The establishment of such center would indicate the seriousness with which both governments view this crisis, and their mutual resolve to combine their energies and their talents to surmount it.

Secretary Shalala and Surgeon-General Satcher, through their work on the U.S./South Africa Binational Commission have been deeply responsive to this crisis and are aware of the extraordinary efforts of the National School of Public Health.

When Professor Herman returns to the United States in November, I hope it may be possible for us to call upon you, and to discuss the terms of a specific proposal which we would like to present.

Respectfully yours,



John H. Chettle
General Counsel

JHC:hw

#73415

cc: Honorable Donna Christian-Christensen
Honorable Barbara Lee
Honorable Donna L. Shalala

cc's (Cont'd):

Honorable David Satcher

Dr. Roscoe Moore

Mr. Mark Ahn, Bristol-Myers Squibb

**Dr. David Barr, Forum for Collaborative HIV Research,
George Washington University**

Honorable Ronald V. Dellums

**Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious
Diseases, National Institutes of Health**

Prof. Allen A. Herman, National School of Public Health

Dr. Mark Kline, Baylor College of Medicine

Dr. Steve Kopecky, Mayo Clinic

Dr. Richard Marlink, HarvardAIDS

**Dr. Neal Nathanson, Office of AIDS Research, Office of the
Director, National Institutes of Health**

**Dr. Richard Riegelman, School of Public Health and
Health Services, George Washington University**

**Sara Rosenbaum, Esq., Center for Health Science Research
and Policy, George Washington University**

Dr. Joseph Saba, UNAIDS

Dr. Zelalem Temesgen, Mayo Clinic

Mr. Sunley Uys, University of Stellenbosch

Prof. E. Janse van Rensburg, University of Stellenbosch

Mr. David Warr, Bristol-Myers Squibb

Ms. Susan Wescott, Mayo Clinic

Honorable L. Douglas Wilder, Medunsa Trust, Inc.

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May 12, 2000

Ms. Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy
736 Jackson Place
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Thurman:

The Chairman, Governor L. Douglas Wilder, and Board of Trustees of the Medunsa Trust have great pleasure in inviting you to be our guest at the Fifth Medunsa Awards Banquet, to be held at the Willard Hotel, 1401 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C., on June 6, 2000. The reception will be at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m., and dress will be business attire.

We will be presenting the Nelson Mandela Award for Outstanding Leadership to Mr. Charles A. Heimbald, Jr., Chairman of Bristol-Myers Squibb, in recognition of his leadership and that of Bristol-Myers Squibb in making their \$100 million contribution to fighting AIDS in Southern Africa. We are hoping that the Award will be presented by Vice-President Al Gore, himself a former winner of the Award. The Reverend Jesse Jackson will be making the Keynote Address.

This Award follows those presented to President Thabo Mbeki, Vice President Al Gore, Speaker Newt Gingrich, and Deputy President Jacob Zuma.

We hope very much to welcome you there. Please let me or my Secretary, Hope Wade, know by May 30 if you will be able to attend at (202) 457-5100.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely yours,

John H. Chettle

John H. Chettle
Secretary and General Counsel

JHC/fwr
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AIDS: THE GREATEST PANDEMIC OF OUR TIMES

The Medunsa Trust was established as a charitable foundation in the US in 1994 to promote black medical education in South Africa, and to assist the Medical University of Southern Africa, the largest health sciences center on the African Continent. Medunsa, just north of Pretoria, has been in the forefront of the effort to bring greater equity in health services to people of all races. Sixty percent of all the black doctors and allied health professionals currently practicing in South Africa were trained at Medunsa.

The Trust has joined with the new National School of Public Health at Medunsa to help deal with the gravest crisis Africa has ever faced, that of HIV/AIDS. Projected deaths from AIDS may exceed those in all the wars of the Twentieth Century. The National School has the largest training program in Africa devoted to this pandemic.

Medunsa is also putting together the most comprehensive effort ever undertaken to coordinate American and South African expertise to deal with the crisis. It is working with the Mayo Clinic, Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, George Washington University in Washington, DC, the University of Stellenbosch, and the International Association of Physicians Against AIDS in a major effort to confront the full complexity of the challenge.

In recognition of the remarkable gesture of Bristol-Myers in donating \$100 million to help deal with the crisis, the Board of the Medunsa Trust awarded the Nelson Mandela Award for Outstanding Leadership to Mr. Charles E. Heimbold, Jr., Chairman of Bristol-Myers. He joins a very select group of awardees, President Thabo Mbeki, Vice President Al Gore, former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, and Deputy President Jacob Zuma.